Method Imperfect. -timeago's Automobile licensing is general throughout Europe, but the introduction of an ordinance to license motor vehicles in New York city has aroused a wide and varied ussion among those using this type of vehicle here. For the most part the resentative men of the chief club and of the national organization appear to favor some system of the sort, but there is plenty of opposition, some of it based on the proposition that the idea is un-American and would involve class legislation and more of it directed specifically against the plan of making such a law local in effect and against the provisions of the ordinance as

In Chicago there has been a license law for automobiles in operation for several years, but according to Arthur J. Eddy of that city it is not working satisfactorily. Mr. Eddy was the first president of the Chicago Automobile Club and is the author of a book relating his own experiences, entitled: "Two Thousand Miles in an Auto-

When he was in New York recently Mr. Eddy was interviewed by a reporter of THE SUN, to whom he expressed himself emphatically as being in favor of a license system, but not any such as they have in the Windy City. In the first place the examinations there are not strict enough to preclude the handling of a machine by an incompetent. Secondly he maintained that the imposition of a fine for an infraction of the law is not sufficient. It is not a deterrent to persons of wealth, who are frequent offenders and who pay a fine off hand and go out and repeat the offence "To make them pause," said Mr. Eddy, "the law must permit of their license being suspended and for grave, or repeated offences, repealed. It is no privation for a man worth millions to pay a \$50 fine, but if you prevent him from operating his machine for a month or two you inflict a penalty that he will feel. The French have the most perfect system that I know of and I would favor something of the sort here."

It is the system in vogue in France that seems to be in the minds of most of those who have spoken in favor of a license law here. What the French method is was pretty clearly set forth by the president of one of the large automobile manufacturing companies a few days ago, just after he had returned from Paris. The law over there is a national one and it is well enforced. The machines and operators are licensed separately. In Paris alone, licenses for 7.807 motor vehicles have been filed, this year, and 13,600 chauffeur certificates have been granted. Each machine owned must be registered and bear a tag on its front and its back, so as to be seen coming and going. These tags are printed with good-sized white lettering on a black background so as to be easily read by day and quite readily deciphered at night. The tags bear a letter and a number, such as "E 629." The letters refer to the class of the machine, gasolene, steam, or electric and also whether public or private, while the number indicates the ownership. When a machine is registered all details concerning it and its owner all details concerning it and its owner are entered most thoroughly in the official books. The character of the engine, the number of cylinders, if multiple, the horsepower, the brake-power, and the weight of the carriage, all are noted. Then the pedigree of the owner is taken

his name, age, address, club addresses and the place or places where his vehicle is kept are recorded. Even if he has a regular stable, but occasionally puts up a machine at a "garage," or public storage house, the address of the "garage" must be given and also his country home, if he has any. If the owner has no individual license he must have a licensed chauffeur to run his car. The individual permits are issued only after a rigid examination will be no trouble for the police to find him in case he is wanted.

No automobile is allowed to stand in the

street without an occupant. A licensed operator must be in the car at all times. This is to prevent runaways due to mis chievous meddling such as have occurred in this city. It is said that the police o Paris are so exceedingly punctilious that there is little chance to evade the law. A gendarme is apt at any time to ask a chauffeur to show his license card, may even stop him and do so. If a machine is seen speeding and flies

unheedingly past a gendarme, the officer simply notes the number and letter and the rest is easy. The penalties for violations of speed or other offences, are fines, suspension of license, revocation of it, or imprisonment, according to the gravity of the offer c. The compensation for this strict-Dess of law is found in the fact that the opeed limit in Paris is twenty miles an hour, though it is said that thirty miles is winked at if no mischief is done, and in the further fact that vehicles have the right of way in the streets. Pedestrians, when they leave the sidewalk and try to cross the carriageway, must look out for the vehicles and not expect the drivers to stop for them. Among other interesting features of the Prench regulations is a law requiring that all steam vehicles shall be fitted with condensers, so there is no "exhaust" streaming behind to frighten horses. On cars of more than twelve or thirteen hundre pounds auxiliary brakes are prescribed

as compulsory.

President A. R. Shattuck of the Automobile Club of America, evidently had the thorough French system in thought wher he replied to questions about license here He said he was heartily in favor of some system, but that it should not be simply municipal or local in its scope. He thought should be a State law at least and that the ideal law would be a national one with a bureau of license and inspection, conducted on lines similar to those on which steam-boats are licensed. He pointed out that if cities eracted license ordinances a tourist would either get into trouble or be obliged to take out a license in all the dif-ferent cities through which he passed that

Winthrop E. Scarritt, president of the American Automobile Association, which includes most of the large clubs in various parts of the country, also is in favor of a license system, although he, as well as Mr. Shattuck, thinks it somewhat impertinent for cyclists to have introduced the measure.

measure.

The objectors to the idea are to be found among all classes from shiftless chauffeurs who object to tax and regulations to wealthy men who do not want to be annoyed, to lawyers who think the plan unconstitu-tional and to wheelmen who sympathize with the automobilists, because they had to fight for the right of bicycles to go along the roads, as free from tax and tag as the horse of the speedwayite and the farmer. The possible specific objections to the bill as pointed out by a prominent automobilist are many.

to the bill as pointed out by a prominent automobilist are many.

The ordinance has not yet been published in full and it is too long to be reproduced here. It was introduced to the Law Committee of the Board of Aldermen on Sept. 4 by Joseph B. Thompson, who is chairman of the Rights and Privileges Committee of the New York State Division, League of American Wheelmen. He was requested by the Executive Committee of the division to prepare something of the sort. Apparently Mr. Thompson has some acquaintance with the French regulations. for there are many respects in which the provisions he makes resembles those of France. It is called an ordinance to license yet according to its terms any vehicle operated by a person licensed must by merchants and storekee have a number on a lamp on each side of ing cases and merchandise.

LICENSES FOR THE AUTOISTS. the front of the carriage. The ordinance itself does not take into account the men who own several automobiles of different sorts of motor power. Section 1 provides:

No person shall hereafter operate any utomobile, locomobile, motor vehicle or other similar vehicle, whether the motive power thereof be electricity, steam, gas, casolene, oil, naphtha or other similar source of energy, and whether used as public hack, ruck or for hire, or for private pleasure or ousiness, until such person has first obtained i license to operate the same.

The critic mentioned calls attention to

the New York Ordinance Stipulates The critic mentioned calls attention to the fact that this precludes any visitor from entering the city with an automobile without obtaining a license and that nothing following makes an exception in favor of transients. Section 2 provides for the appointment by the Mayor of a commission of three to examine applicants as to their competency. The commissioners are to be paid out of the fees obtained for licenses and are to have a secretary who is already a city employee. The commissioners may be removed at the pleasure of the Mayor. "Said beard may adopt and enforce such rules and regulations for the performance of the duties imposed upon it as it shall deem necessary. It is ques-tioned whether this leaves it open to the ommissioners to make exceptions of the Section 5 provides:

Licenses issued hereunder shall contain the name and address of the person in whose favor issued, the kind of vehicle to be operated thereunder, with a sufficiently definite dethereunder, with a sufficiently definite de-scription thereof, and shall otherwise be in such form as may be prescribed by the said Board of Examiners of Automobile Operators, and shall be numbered and registered by and with the Bureau of Licenses with the full name and address of the person to whom issued, with the number thereof, in a book to be provided for that purpose, which book shall be open to inspection by the public during office hours. Every person to whom any license is issued, before attempting to operate any such vehicle thereunder, shall cause the vehicle mentioned therein to be equipped with two suitable latens, to be apcause the vehicle mentioned therein to be equipped with two suitable lamps, to be approved by the Mayor or by the chief of said Bureau of Licenses, one to be carried forward on each side of such vehicle, and shall have securely fastened across the middle of the outside of each lamp a metal band not less than two inches in width, out of which the official numbers of such licenses shall be cut after the manner of a stencil plate. The component figures of such numbers shall not be less than one and one-half inches in height, and of a style to be approved by the Mayor or by the chief of the said Bureau of Licenses, and said number shall be so blaced as to be easily seen from either side of such vehicle by day as well as by night, and such lamps shall be kept brightly burning from one hour after sunset as long as said vehicle is used at night.

This seems to render it necessary that

This seems to render it necessary that the owner of several vehicles should have his own license number on them, but there provision for distinguishing the class of vehicles nor any for locating the 'garage' where it is kept. It is said that a man who might prove competent to run a non-explosive gasolene motor might be a dangerous person to have charge of a steam

Section 6 says:

It shall be sufficient cause for suspending or revoking such license that the person to whom it has been issued has violated any law ordinance, regulation or resolution of said city or any department thereof, in regard to the rate of speed at which such vehicles as are affected by this ordinance are permitted to be operated or run; or has wilfully violated any other law, ordinance, regulation or reso-lution of said city or any department thereof, or any law of the State of New York operative in said city, &c.

It is consended that this gives the Mayor power to revoke a license for a single trivial transgression. It is not compulsory for the Mayor to be drastic, however, for in Section 4 it provides that the Mayor "shall

have power, after a hearing, to sus-pend or revoke in accordance with Section 6. It is argued though that by chance an "automobile hater" might be elected Mayor and by appointing three commis-sioners of his lik might make life intolerable for auto operators. Further along, the same section prohibits any one leaving a machine stand in the street unattended. Section 7 reads:

Section 7 reads:

The fee to be paid for licenses under this ordinance shall be as follows: For any vehicle affected by the provision hereof operated as a public hack, cab, coach or truck, or for hire, if intended to carry one or two persons, \$3: If intended to carry more than two persons, \$5. For any such vehicle operated for private use, either for business or pleasure, \$10.

It is objected to generally that the rates are too high, especially that of \$10 for a private vehicle. Section 8 provides for penalties com-pulsorily as follows:

pulsorily as follows:

Any person operating or attempting to operate any vehicle, covered by the provisions of this ordinance, on any of the streets, avenues, roads, alleys, lanes, boulevards, highways, concourses, parks, parkways or other public places within said city of New York without first obtaining a license so to do, or violating any of the other provisions or requirements of this ordinance, shall for each offence be fined not less than \$10 nor more than \$50, or shall be imprisoned not less than two days nor more than ten days, or shall suffer both fine and imprisonment.

Section 9 makes exceptions as follows:

Section 9 makes exceptions as follows: Nothing herein contained shall be strued to apply to any vehicle propelle strued to apply to any vehicle propelled by horse power or by human agency, nor to any motor cycle, or bicycle, or tricycle, nor to any street car, by whatever motive power propelled, nor to any elevated or steamrail-road or railway car or the engine or other motive power used to propel the same; nor to any vehicle mentioned in Section 1 hereof, owned or employed by the city of New York or by the Government of the United States, or by any regularly constituted hospital in said city of New York.

The ordinance is to take effect imme-

The ordinance is to take effect immediately, except that sixty days shall be allowed all persons operating machines at the time of its passage to procure

It is expected that there will be a public hearing on the ordinance next month, when proposals for amendments can be made. At present it seems likely that made. At present it seems likely that the ordinance will be more favored in the main features than opposed. League of American Wheelmen officials say this is but a first step toward the introduction of State law covering the same ground.

#### ENTRAL'S WIDENING PLAN. Schaefer Brewery Wants Compensation

to Private Owners. The proposition of the New York Central railroad to widen Park avenue be tween Forty-ninth and Fifty-sixth streets, and consequently to close a small part of the cross streets between these points, came up for discussion again yesterday before the local board of the Murray Hill district. Ira A. Place, counsel for the railroad, sub mitted statistics showing that the train capacity of the tunnel could be nearly doubled if the company obtained permis doubled if the company obtained permission to widen the avenue. Mr. Place said that the company had already purchased almost all the property required for the widening of the thoroughfare, and that the city would be indemnified against possible actions for damage.

Ex-Comptroller Ashbel P. Fitch, who appeared for the Schaefer Brewing Company, which owns the property on the east

appeared for the Schaefer Brewing Company, which owns the property on the east side of Park avenue from Fiftieth street to Fifty-second, said his clients would oppose the plans of the New York Central railroad until that company made some specific agreement to pay damages caused to private owners. He also said that the company should stipulate not to build a power house in the neighborhood. The bearing was adjourned until next Thursday. power house in the neighborhood. The hearing was adjourned until next Thursday

### RAID ON WOODEN INDIANS. Barbers' Poles Also, as Well as Trucks.

Seized by Street Clean rs. Street Cleaning Commissioner Woodbury sent out on Friday night a big staff of men to gather in "incumbrances" found on the streets, and the result was that the yards

streets, and the result was that the yards at West Fifty-sixth street and West 130th street were filled yesterday morning with trucks, carts, wooden Indians and barbers' poles. Up to the time of the closing of the department's offices yesterday no less than \$995 had been paid by the owners of the seized property in redemption charges.

Borough President Cantor, it is understood, is of the opinion that his Bureau of Incumbrances is the only body which has jurisdiction over street obstructions, and in order to settle the question he and Major in order to settle the question he and Major Woodbury have asked for the opinion of the Corporation Counsel. Commissioner Woodbury said vesterday that if the power is his he will stop the blocking of sidewalks by merchants and storekeepers with pack-

# HARD TIMES IN BEELAND.

TRAGEDY BROUGHT BY THE SUM-MER TO THE DRONES.

Short Supply of Honey Caused by Cold and Rain-Starvation Threatened in Many Hives Bee Statesmanship Rises to the Emergency-Massacre of Drones

ROCHESTER, Sept. 27.-The sold weather and frequent rains of the past summer have resulted in hundreds of unnoticed little tragedies among the insect population of the country. But to none did fate probably seem more cruel than to the drones, the male inhabitants of the bee-

In ordinary years their lot during the summer must be a happy one. They feed on the choicest honey of the hives, flit about in the sunlight from flower to flower enjoying life, but burdened with no work or responsibilities, and, when twilight comes, return to the home hive, there to gorge themselves on the sweetest fruits of the industry of the working bees and then to sleep until wakened by the sunlight of another happy, careless day.

Their mission in life is the mysterio marriage with the queen bee. That is generally accomplished in the fall, and until it takes place the drones are the petted aristocrats of the hive.

But this year the generally patient work ing bees turned on the idle drones during the early summer and the result was a general massacre of the drones at the time when they are generally enjoying the good things of life.

The rains have even more to do with this early slaughter than the cold weather. About the time for gathering honey there came long-continued and heavy rains This was particularly the case in the middle West States, especially in southern Indiana and Illinois, where tens of thousands of acres were partially or wholly submerged by floods.

Even when there were no great floods the result was the same, so far as the bees were concerned. The pollen, on which they depended for their honey for their very existence, was washed away.

Then the hives in those regions when the rains were worst became the scenes of those little tragedies that are so common yet so unnoticed, in the lives of every species of animals, birds and insects. Impelled by instinct, the worker bees toiled harder than ever. Beekeepers report that in many cases the bees, wandering too far away from the hives in their search for pollen, were overcome by the cold and wet, and, unable to return, perished far from their homes.

But the most desperate efforts of the little workers could not bring the supply of honey up to its normal quantity. In many of the hives there was a state of semi-

And through the evil days that had faller on the hives the big, lazy drones, the spoiled children of the bee world, took their eas without care or worry

They helped themselves to the choices honey as in prosperous years. If it was cold and wet outdoors, they simply stayed in the hives and ate the more and slept the longer. It was more than bee patience could bear

Even in the prosperous years when hone is abundant and the hives overflow it would seem that the conduct of the drones must be most irritating to the working bees The best hives support about 500 males or drones. In hives where the quantity of the honey is less or its quality is not so good, by some mysterious law of nature the num ber of drones is more, running sometimes as high as 4,000.

They are larger than the working bees possess thousands more facits to their eyes, are brighter colored and more striking in appearance. Nature seems to have

Yet the drones have an important mission to perform. On the marriage of one of them with the queen depends the existence of the hive from year to year.

But after the marriage of the queen be the mission in life of the drones is accomplished. Then the patient working bees. who have so long supported them in idleness, turn and kill every drone. It is the

annual tragedy of the beshive. This season when the pollen was washed from the flowers and the working bees could not obtain the material for honey, all in the hives, workers, queen bees and drones, were threatened with starvation.

In this emergency the conduct of the working bees, the ruling factor in the hives. seems to have passed beyond mere animal instinct and to have deserved the name of bee statesmanship.

Ordinarily the marriage of the queen bee to the one drone that succeeds in overtaking her in her wonderful nuptial flight from the hive takes place during the hot. sunshiny, sultry days of mid-August, although sometimes it is postponed until | September, if the weather is unusually balmy and warm. But this season it was evident in many hives that if the bees waited until the usual time for the marriage of the queen bee all would perish from starvation.

The drones were the largest eaters, yet they produced no honey. They must die in order that the rest of the hive live.

Even under stress of threatened starve tion the bees were mindful of their duty to future generations. The queen bees, no doubt cross and impatient at being disturbed, were hustled from the cells set apart for them. They were pushed and shouldered to the entrance of the hives, where they were urged to take their flight into the air, where they might be followed

by the drones. In some cases the queens did as their subjects desired, returned to the hives, and, crawling into the cells which had been made for them, began hatching out their eggs. These were the fortunate hives and will probably have their usual number

of bees next season. Others of the queens puzzled at being urged to take their flight so much earlier in the season, refused to do so. Some took the flight, but were not followed by The the drones. In these hives there will be only the old bees who : u vive from this summer and the future of these hives and

their swarms is extremely doubtful. So far as the drones were concerned the outcome was the same. The working bees had done their part. With a scant supply of honey there was no place in the hive for lazy non-producers.

When the drones tried to approach the tiny cells or vats, in which the summer honey is stored, they were met and overwhelmed by the angry, half-starved working bees, whose patience was at last ex-

Though large compared with the workers the drones are worthless as fighters. Some were stung to death. Others, their wings and legs cut off, were left to die on the floor of the hives. Those that succeeded in escaping from the hives were prohibited by a guard of angry bees from rentering. Unaccustomed to supporting themselves, december on the working bees when he dependent on the working bees who had so long been their patient slaves, they starved to death.

Though the slaughter of the drones

the annual tragedy of Berland, yet their fate this season was sadder than usual. For they perished before they had known the delights of summer, of living on the best the hive afforded, sleeping on sultry afternoons hidden in some big flower, and spending happy, idle days in the warm

THE BROOKLYN THEATRES. What Will Be Done by Actors in Them During This Week.

Brooklyn is kept theatrically lively with eekly changes at nearly all of its many playhouses. At the Columbia to-morrow he stock company will revive Augustus
he stock company will revive Augustus fhomas's excellent play, "In Mizzoura" in which Nat C. Goodwin used to act. The Folly will have that best of Augustus Thomas's melodramas, "Arizona," with its vivid pictures of Western military and ranch life. Corse Payton will join his stock com-

pany at his theatre for a week in "My Old Kentucky Home." Mr. Payton has this season established resident companies in Boston and Cincinnati, but does not seem noston and Chrimatt, but does not seem inclined to neglect his Brooklyn house.

Reilly & Woods's burlesque and vaude-ville company will play at the Star this week, the principal number in the programme being a travesty called "The Funny Page."

nny Page." David Warfield and the Belasco pany will come to the Montauk with Lee Arthur and Charles Klein's local comedy of "The Auctioneer," in which Mr. Warfield and Marie Bates are particularly well George W. Monroe will come to the

irand Opera House after his successful reek at the theatre of that name in Manattan borough. He has much that is progrously amusing to do in "The Doings Mrs. Dooley," a vaudeville farce written r him by Walter Vincent and Sidney

Edna May Spooner's stock company at the Bijou will revive "A Nutmeg Match." with herself and the other favorites of the or- thing he had done here was the bateful The Gayety will have the Bohemian Bur-

sources as its gay entertainers. The well-known melodrama, "Humanity," vill be the play at Blaney's. Albini's Big Burlesquers will come to he Unique for song, dance and fun. The play at the Gotham will be "Lady

Adolph Philipp will present German plays

the Amphion.

The Orpheum's weekly change of vaude-lie bill will bring Charles J. Ross and Mabel Fenton back to the sort of work that they described for Weberfieldian burlesque. which in time they gave up to run a farm for coaching parties' luncheons and din-ners near Long Branch. They will do a sketch that will permit of imitations of well-known actresses by Mrs. Fenton-Ross. Jac Tucker and Eva Williams give one of their little plays, and Johnson and Dean will sing, dance and disport themselves as negro fashion plates. The other names on he long bill are Julian Rose, the Zancigs, he Delmore sisters, the musical Johnsons

without a good and costly leader. Jessie Bartlett Davis will be in that position this week. One of Miss Davis's distinctions when the prima donna of the Bostonians was her original singing of the De Koven ballad. and, of course, she will introduce it now for an encore, after giving some newer songs. The Hyde & Behman bill is long and promising, with a wide di-

#### THE STAGE IN OTHER LANDS. Sudermann's New Drama-Actors Who Are Known in New York.

Hermann Sudermann's tragedy of "Es Lebe Das Leben," which Edith Wharton has just translated for Mrs. Patrick Campbell to put on at the Garden in a few weeks is little known in this country and probably never will be widely liked. Its subject is the effect of a man's private life on his ablic career, a subject strongly treated r Henry Arthur Jones in "The Bauble Shop," but in this case illustrated in very different and far more depressing circumstances. Beata, Mrs. Campbell's rôle, had loved her husband's friend and political ally many years before, but for the sake of his ambition in public life had disconed her relations with him twelve years efore the opening of the play, when the scandal breaks out, leading to a domestic uphear at culminating in the suicide of the wife. One line in the 10th of Beata illustrates its suitability to Mrs. Pat: "Ah, not to be agitated, not to think, not to laugh, not to weep-in a word, not to live!" How Mrs. Pat and John Blair will enjoy hat if even only ten persons gather i

that if even only ten persons gather in the theatre every evening. Sarah Bernhardt has returned to Paris after a summer of rest on an island off the coast of Brittany. After her pro-duction of a new French melodrama she will use a translation of "If I Were King," playing the part acted here by Edward H. Sothern and in London by George Alex-ander.

Fanny Ward has returned to the London stage in a farcical comedy called "What Would a Gentleman Do?" by Gilbert Dayle As formerly, she has surrounded herself with the best actors procurable. Frank Mills, remembered here at the Lyceum and last season as Elsie de Wolfe's leading actor in "The Way of the World," is her principal assistant. Then there are J. H. Barnes, still a much admired old actor of London, and Nina Boucicault, usually the star of a company Louis Bradfield, amon the cleverest of light comedians in music

arce and the original in Cyril Sect 's 16'e n "Floradora," is also in the cast. Ada Reeve was rapturously received on her return to the London stage in the rôle written for her in "Three Little Maids," but which she had been too ill to take in the

original production.
Lily Hanbury, a London favorite in drama instead of musical farce, is now ill and forced to give up a part in "My Lady Virtue," by Henry V. Esmoni.

by Henry V. Esmon'l.

Annie Hughes, the original in the rôle in "A Country Mouse," that Ethel Barrymore will play here next week, is about to produce "Mrs. Willoughby's Kiss," by Frank Stayton who supplied Charles Hawtrey last spring with "The President."

Beerbohm Tree has postponed "The Eternal City" until Oct. 2, but everything is complete, with a cast including Robert complete, with a cast including Robert Taber, Brandon Thomas, Lionel Brough and Constance Collier, Although he is most confident of the Hall Caine play, Mr. Tree is a shrewd enough manager to prepare to some extent its successor. This will be "Richard II.," and he has bought a new play—by an M. P., by the way, as Claude Lowther is its author.

## CHANGING A RAILROAD'S NAME. Some Notion of the Amount of Labor There

From the Denver Post. John Rattanburg, master painter of the Rock Island system, is in Denver for a novel purpose. He is entering upon the work of changing the name of the "Great Rock Island

changing the name of the "Great Rock Island Route" to "The Rock Island System." over the entire property of that company. At first glance such an undertaking would not seem as very great, but only a moment's thought is necessary to see that it will take a long time to accomplish the object and that the cost will be up in the thousands.

When the railroad consisted of only 181 miles of ill-laid track, all running in one State, the name "The Rock Island Route" was adopted and for many years served its purpose, bringing fame to the little terminal point which is now only a way station on the great system. But when that road grew into a powerful organization, with nearly 7,000 miles of track, the name was not comprehensive chough, and a few weeks ago the edict went forth that hereafter "The Rock Island System" would replace the old trade mark.

That little order meant that every piece.

Island System" would replace the old trade mark.

That little order meant that every piece of stationery in hundreds of offices, window signs, literature, advertising matter, box-car names, and dozens of other accessories of the system would have to undergo a change as soon as possible. The master painter has only a part of the work to do. He must transform the name on the windows and doors of the fiftees and on signs at stations and on the billipards.

To-day he will begin work at the western terminals of the line and transform the name at Denver and Colorado Springs and then he will work his way east, stopping at every small station and every hiliboard.

The corporate trade mark is made to embrace all the various lines which have recently come under the dominion of the Rock Island and the change was made much of a necessity by the manifold names which could be so much more easily used under one title.

POINTS OF DRAMATIC VIEW.

STRANGERS WHO ACT WELL EVER WELCOME IN BROADWAY.

Asche, Who Wasn't Known Here at All, and Norris, Who Hadn't Been Seen as a Comie Comedian -Titled Chaps Who Are to Figure on the New York Stage

Strangers who can act well are ever wel-

come in our theatres. Instead of being

offish toward new talent and disposed to

delay the acceptance of it we are quick to

hail it with delight. There was a case in

point last week-that of Oscar Asche in

'Iris." Some of us knew that he had been

a factor in the London performance of that

drama, yet no considerable reputation had

preceded him across the Atlantic. Even now we do not know that his ability is equal anything different from what he does as the ferocious lover in the Pinero play. The author selected him for the character and it may be that he is unsuitable for aught else than the protrayal of brutality However, the indications are more favorable than that to him. The big and brawny Maldonaldo in his fury with Iris is much like Bill Sikes with Nancy, but he is quite as much like Othello with Des e nona. There s an active mind in the physical bulk. So it is clear that Mr. Asche is an artist, and it may be that he is also versatile. Our readiness to be pleased by talented strangers had another illustration last week in "A Country Girl." We who watch the stage closely had known William Norris as a cleverly serious actor, but the genera thing he had done here was the hatefu j ster in "Francesca da Rimini." He hac not been under suspicion as a comic comedian. Yet there he is now at Daly's, as limber a dancer, as blithe a joker and altogether as funny a fellow as we have had in any of the Edwardes plays. Much of the resplendent show's success depends on his rôle, for we go to such entertainments to laugh at absurdities as well as to admire sightliness, and all the fun of "A Country Girl" is in and close around Barry, the gentleman's man. The singularity of this suddenly discovered low comedian is the refinement of his grotesquery. He is as exaggerative with the impertinences of a quite impossible servant as the usages of musical farce require, yet you do not stop to think that if he were in real life he would be kicked right out of the scenes in which he is so forward. You are instead disposed he is so forward. You are instead disposed to regard him, if you consider the point at all, as a specially privileged jester, such as even Kings used to license. Perhaps the best proof that "A Country Girl" intro-duces a real comedian, and that Broadway is ever ready to welcome a stranger who can act well, is the unreserved mirth of modish audiences when Mr. Norris appears at a costume ball in the disguise of a woman. It is hard for a man to be comic in skirts without yularity. without vulgarity.

The controversy here over the mora status of Pinero's "Iris" makes it pertinen to tell that in London the author and Sig Edward Russell are still fighting in open letters over "The Gay Lord Quex." They have reached the second round, Pinero's answer to Sir Edward's original slating of his comedy being now a thing of the past The dramatist's defence has been an swered by a second attack by the critic who has in turn been replied to again by the playwright. The morality of the play was so thoroughly threshed out on the original production in London, nearly four years ago, and here in 1900, that such a discussion seems warmed over at this day. Both the critic and the dramatist make good points. Sir Edward's principal complaint is not so much against the moral tone of the play as the harm of putting Quer and Sophie Fullgarny as hero and heroine. Pinero's answer is simply that he does not set them forth so; that the play is a picture of men and women approve of their examples, and that no

approve of their examples, and that no one in the piece is represented as a hero or heroine, or anything like one.

Mr. Pinero insists on taking all the time he wants to write a play. It is said that the making of "Iris" occupied two years. He has not finished the comedy for Charles Frohman's London company at the Duke of York's. Marie Tempest is playing there in "The Marriage of Kitty" just now, and the return of the home company has been postponed for her sake, and probably because of the delay in the Pinero drama It looks now as if there would have to be another setback in time, in which case Mr. Frohman's actors will start in a comedy that James M. Barrie has just finished for them. The principal parts were designed especially for Irene Vanbrugh and H. B. Irving.

The Earls of Rosslyn and Yarmouth are not to have things all their own way or our stage. Mrs. Robert Osbora has variety of near nobility in her companymen who would be Earls or Viscounts if six or seven relatives who are in the best of health should unexpectedly die. With the aid of the tree of the noble house of Craven, Richard Lambart can trace back to his grandfather, the Earl, and then take a roundabout twist to his cousin, the present Earl of Craven and thus even reach the Bradley-Martins of Albany, N. Y. But Mrs. Osborn's assortment of cottonbacked nobility is nothing to the real thing that has broken loose in London Viscounts and Marquises are writing musical farces right and left. Lady Violet Greville and Lady Colin Campbell are dramatists among the "acted," and now the Duchess of Sutherland is play-making. She is a sister of the Earl of Rosslyn and the Countess of Warwick, both of sensational deliges gallers.

the Countess of Warwick, both of sensational doings galore.

One of last week's new plays in London was "Naughty Nancy," and only three days before the production the fact came out that the Oliver Bath credited with writing it was really Viscount Tiverton, son of the Earl of Halsbury, Lord Chancellor of England. He is only 22 years old, but has been a conspicuous first-righter. cellor of England. He is only 22 years old, but has been a conspicouous first-nighter for several season, and made a name for himself as an oarsman as well as for his verses at New College, Oxford. He is newer at comic opera making than the Marquis of Anglesey, who has a theatre in his castle, where he gives musical farce, writing the pieces and acting in them. He now intends to go into one branch of that work professionally and has adopted the pen name of Cadrawd Hardd, which seems an extraordinary thing to do to one's self when seems an extraordinary thing to do to one's self
Viscount Tiverton's play seems to have achieved little success. Its merit, as far as his work is concerned, is said to be in the verses, which jingle merrily, although not with originality. The music is by new men and the cast, at the Sayov is

new men and the cast at the Savoy new men and the cast at the Savoy is made up almost entirely of little-known players. It is led by Kitty Loftus, remembered here for a bad voice, a cockney accent and an amateur manner of acting. In "Naughty Nancy" she does little to warrant her new position as a star, judging by accounts. In the title part she plays a schoolgirl in love with the principal ballad singer, and she finally marries him, after listening to several songs, singing a ballad singer, and she finally marries him, after listening to several songs, singing a whole lot on her own account and joining in a "rough house" in the second act, participated in by all of the characters and occurring, of course, in Paris. The first act, in a girls' boarding school, is mainly taken up with reasons for every one going to Paris in the next act disguised in anything that will even; a minterpolated song thing that will excuse an interpolated song. Eva Kelly, who used to be a show girl at the Casino when Irene Bentley and Elia Snyder were in similar service, has the next part to Miss Loftus's, and has reTHIS SALE TERMINATES OCTOBER 1.

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tiful gowns as well as to sing some good A MODERN DRAMATIC TEMPLE.

It is not unlikely that, even with its black

ve of complete London failure, "Chance, ould interest enough up-to-date Yorkers to fill a theatre at a single ormance of it. Henry Arthur Jones upies a position far enough in advance most modern dramatists to make even tual ventures interesting to the few. Some one might get up a Jones cycle for Tuesday and Thursday matinées, with the attractive title of "Bad Plays by the Author of The Case of Rebellious Susan." Four of the five that he has turned out in the last three years or so have collapsed o completely as never to be imported bey could be given in the order of "Carnac Sanib." "The Lackeys' Carnival." "The Princess's Nose" and "Chance, the Idol, with "Mrs. Dane's Defence" kept to th kept to the ast instead of given its right place in the middle, just to show that the man who wrote "The Dancing Girl" is still equal Mr. Jones's misfortune has been in every case a lack of plot. He takes up odd subjects, selects his characters well and draws them strongly, but when the situation has been set forth nothing remains to be

There are no scenes, no plot progress limatic goal to reach. The place of o climatic goal to reach. The place of Chance, the Idol" is at Monte Carlo, and story turns around a young man deeply debt, having gone to the gambling re-ort after seducing a girl of the middle class ort after sedering a girl of indicate or in a second leaving her and their child penniless the follows him, having inherited some money, with which she offers to pay his he money is not enough, but she multies it by gambling and almost persuade man to marry her, his relatives consent ing to a thing that they think disgrace-ful to him. But chance, "the idol," is too strong for the girl, and she plays again, losing all she has, and with it all hope of marriage. However, a benevolent paralytic who has befriended her throughout her trouble points out that her former lover must pay back the money that she has already advanced on his debts, and that she must demand it for the sake of her child. The play ends with the invalid on an empty stage listening to her singing her babe to sleep in an adjoining room.

Much that is strenuous and irrelevant occurs in this Jones drama. A young gambler dashes in, raves wildly about himself and his favorite vice, and later is carried, almost self-slain, across the back f the stage on a stretcher. A gay young

woman has a run of luck and in the same day loses even her jewelry. And so on through minor persons, who rush suddenly and unexpectedly into the plot, tell all about themselves in excited terms, and dash off, never to be heard of again. This dash on, never to be heard of again this is the drama that Mr. Jones wrote for Lena Ashwell as a successor to "Mrs. Dane's Defence," with which he brought her into fame in a night. It is safe to say that Margaret Anglin will not be Miss Ashwell's successor in this, as she was in the other. Sir Charles Wyndham made the London production, although not with himself in the cast. The leading male rô'e was acted by Henry V. Esmond, author role was acted by Henry V. Esmond, author of "The Wilderness" and other plays better than Mr. Jones is writing of late years. Winifred Arthur-Jones, the dramatist's daughter, had a small part, good enough

to make a decided hit in

Our Nance O'Neil, or, to be more exact. McKee Rankin, her manager, has gone to pieces in London after three plays from the long repertory that she announced. the long repertory that she amounced.

Her Magda was not very well liked, but we counted on her Camille, which was spoken of more kindly, and personally she was favorably received in "Elizabeth, Queen of England". But it is too daring an attempt gland" But it is too daring an attempt any but a great actress to take the world's metropolis by storm in parts asso ated with Duse, Bernhard and Ristori.
At the very start she offended her audince by receiving flowers over the footence by receiving flowers over the foot-lights. That is regarded by Londoners as an unpardonable affront. The English are none too good-natured, and Mr. Rankin and Miss O'Neil were needlessly aggres-sive, setting aside the first-night list, which even Sir Henry Irving and Beerhohm Tree respect, and in other ways striking a ridicu-lously pompous pose. Because, if it comes to that, who is Nance O'Neil, anyway? to that, who is Nance O'Neil, anyway? A long, scrawnv young woman, with a Western roll of r's in her speech and a generally provincial air. But withal a woman of natural ability, well up toward genius. Even badly trained as she has been, her power in such rôles as Nancy Sikes and Leah is tremendous. Nevertheless, she had no reputation outside the cut-rate there in New York, was not even known to Beard. in New York, was not even known to Broad way, and yet had the effrontery to set asid rules that the leading actors of the world felt bound to respect. She is said to have lost \$20,000 in two weeks at the Adelphi, which is about the sum that Mr. Rankin said he was going to sue the Lyceum man-agement for because it broke its contract for Miss O'Neil to appear in the Irving

HARVARD BOY'S \$10,000 A YEAR Francis Skiddy von Stade Will Have \$1.500. 000 When He is 30.

Referee Maurice Untermyer has submitted to Surrogate Fitzgerald a report recommending that Francis Skiddy von Starie, who is 18 years old, have \$10,000 a year for pocket money and maintenance out of the \$1,000,000 estate left him by his grandmother, Mrs. Margaret S. Fischer

who died about two years ago. Young Francis is a member of the Saratoga polo team, the Saratoga Club, the Saratoga Racing Association and of several other clubs in this and other cities. He is going to Harvard this fall. Mrs. Fischer resided at 316 i ifth avenue and Francis inracters and ocThe first act.

Is mainly taken by the first act.

Is mainly taken by ceived much praise. She enacts an American widow in search of a title, and has opportunities to wear startlingly beautother \$100,000, to be invested in business.

RICH AND TASTEFUL BEAUTY IN THE BELASCO THEATRE.

The New Playhouse in Forty-second Street Intended to Be Untheatric and to Make Audiences Feel as Though They Are

in a Home of a Tasteful Millionaire. New York has many fine theatres, but he new Belasco excels in refinement of color, in the decorative scheme, luxurious comfort and that atmosphere of the drawing room that is so lacking in American playhouses. To-morrow night the public may judge, as some invited guests did yesterday, how well Mr. Belasco has succeeded. Outsiders have already observed his rearrangement of the exterior. The massive fron marquis awning that reaches over the sidewalk from the brownstone portico to the curb is a burst of bright lights to offer a warm greeting. The lobby is a delight, not only in what it contains, but in what is absent. No glaring posters about the play one is about to see are there to offend the eye. Nor do garish colors or shining brasses remind one that this is not the entrance to a rich and artistic home instead of a theatre. The quiet beauty of the lobby is exceptional. At the ends are oak and leather settles, harmonizing with the oak panels and cornices of antique finish and design, the ancient iron candelabra, the fretted ceiling with its clusters of bright lights and the portières through which one enters what might be called the adjoining drawing room.

The back part of the auditorium is like a second hallway, a long corridor running from side to side, the width of the building, partitioned from the orchestra seats by a mahogany screen, with large opalescent discs of lights, curtained windows and portières. Thus not only will draughts from the street be kept out, but Mrs. Leslie Carter will not have Mrs. Patrick Campbell's tantheatre through portières held back by an usher is a new sensation; but so, too, is the sight of rich subdued art in the color scheme. The key to it is in the tapestried forest on the side walls and at the back, under the balcony. These langings, richly wrought from Gobelin designs, picture the changing colors of an autumnal forest. The deep colors of an autumnal forest. The deep reds, greens and golden browns of the October woods are woven quietly into the fabrics. The reds are seen again in the boxes, of which there are four on the first floor, as mony on the second and two on the top. Then, to give a personal touch, Mr. Belasco has used Mrs. Carter's favorite shade of rose Du Barry in the elaborately embroidered draperies within, between and in front of the boxes.

The greens of autumn begin on the main

The greens of autumn begin on the main floor. The heavy velvet carpet is grass-like in color, blending attractively with the seats, which are upholstered in silken tapestry of silver green. Aside from the beauty of these chairs they are exceptional in comfort. One may sit in the Belasco Theatre and watch Mrs. Carter exhaust herself with the emotional suffering of Jeanne du Barry quite as comfortably as if occupying a Turkish chair at home and placidly reading a William Dean Howells novel. The days of the first empire are suggested in the Belasco decorations, with their Napoleon torches, garlands and wreaths of victory standing out in relief perself with the emotional suffering o over the proscenium arch, and repeated in the candelabra, chandeliers, hangings, panels, and, indeed, wherever the possi-bilities of the scheme permit. The back of each chair bears, in silken design, the

Napoleonic bee.

The proscenium arch is elaborately modelled, a great frame to a picture, rich and dignified in its sombre coloring. One of the curtains is of old-fashioned green of the curtains is of old-fashioned green baize, and the other of heavy rose Du Barry velvet. The proscenium lambrequin is decorated with heavy gold embroidery. The electric figures are of gold bronze with crystals of white, amber and rose The fronts of the balconies are done in rose and gold, with masked lights dotting their surfaces. Between the first and second balconies the walls repeat in greens the effect of tapestry hangings, while above the second gallery the same impression occurs in rose. The ceiling, with its beautiful dome, is in gold, grays and rose. Certain new ideas have been introduced in the arrangements for the comfort of the visitors. A telephone and messenger call will be at the free disposal of every one in the house. The smoking room is a library in design as well as in fact, because Mr. Belasco has supplied it with a good stock of current literature for entract reading. Of the three reception rooms for women one on each floor, Mr. Belasco is particularly proud of the one even with the orchestra, which, he says, is an exact copy of Marie Antoinette's boudoir.



Women Who Dress Fashionably

THEATR

MRS. LE

Frohman come

An even occur to-Belasco ope second str occasion w Belasco Th Barry," al Mrs. Leslie in the rôle Criterion night will b the same season will ton Revelle

opposing lo On Tued will produc season in second of gramatic manner th and Clyde get it at the and Mauric to London from faro drama at c monial, an will be unf as well acc of him as Square it w by a comp permanent Finney and leading role Busley, M. on Armstr Frederick
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next Satur pleasant o tour, with Robert I diers of F broken int prospero on Oct. 3 In Mr. Ede Appear in Probable at the Kni success of nothing ha until then The last New York introducin trained a yonn Dr town that ment than Mummy makes suc way, he at Lionel Bar stay at the Jessie X "There's X rick until no announ When she

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Boucicaul will come to "An An An Lucette Rise Art